

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 062929

R 031300Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0310

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1816

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GV, RF

SUBJECT: FRANCO-GUINEAN RELATIONS: FRENCHMEN RELEASED

REF: CONAKRY 1776

1. KNOWLEDGEABLE AND RELIABLE GUINEAN OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED ME THAT THREE FRENCH CITIZENS ARRESTED NOVEMBER 25 WERE RELEASED AT END OF LAST WEEK AND ALLOWED TO RETURN TO IVORY COAST AFTER GUINEA ESTABLISHED THAT LANDING AT N'ZEREKORE WAS REALLY DUE TO PILOT ERROR. SOURCE STATED THAT PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY SENT SEKOU TOURE LETTER OF THANKS.

2. SURPRISING GUINEAN ACTION IN RELEASING FRENCHMEN PROMPTLY, IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS PRACTICE INDICATES, AS WELL AS ANYTHING MIGHT, GUINEA'S DESIRE REACH AN ACCOMMODATION WITH FRANCE. NEWS OF FRENCHMEN'S RELEASE REPORTEDLY WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED IN PARIS AND LIKELY MAKE FRENCH GOVERNMENT MORE INCLINED TO ACCEPT GUINEAN STATEMENTS OF DESIRE NORMALIZE RELATIONS, ANDRE LEWIN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE UNSYG, RETURNED TO CONAKRY EVENING DECEMBER 2, PRESUMABLY WITH FRENCH SUGGESTIONS FOR WORDING OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE, WHICH IS TO BE FIRST STEP IN NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. GOOD FEELINGS
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FLOWING FROM RELEASE OF FRENCHMEN SHOULD IMPROVE CLIMATE FOR

UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS.

TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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